

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7412

BILL NUMBER: HB 1331

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 13, 2013

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Police Reserve Officers.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Mayfield

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill has the following provisions:

Medical Care: It provides that a county, city, or town shall furnish without charge to a police reserve officer (officer) who is injured or contracts an illness in the course of or as the result of performing duties as an officer all necessary physician, surgical, hospital, and nursing services and supplies and that this obligation supersedes any obligations that another medical insurance carrier has to pay the officer's medical expenses.

Lost Wages: It provides that an officer who is unable to pursue the officer's usual vocation as the result of an injury or illness occurring in the course of or as the result of the performance of duties as an officer is entitled to receive a weekly amount equal to the Indiana minimum wage computed on the basis of a 40 hour workweek for a maximum of 260 weeks.

Death or Permanent Disability: It provides that an officer who dies from or is totally and permanently disabled as the result of an injury occurring in the course of or as the result of performing duties as an officer is entitled to receive at least \$150,000.

Disability Benefit: It provides that, if a disability prevents an officer from performing any reasonable employment, a county, city, or town may pay a disability benefit for the life of the officer and coordinate its payments with the officer's other benefits.

Method of Payment: It provides that a county, city, or town may meet its obligations by purchasing policies of group insurance, establishing a plan of self-insurance, or participating in the medical treatment and burial

expense provisions of the worker's compensation and occupational diseases law.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Costs for local units could increase an indeterminate amount to directly pay for police reserve officers who become ill or are injured while at duty, or to pay for premiums for worker's compensation coverage or self-insurance plans to cover police reserve officers.

Some of these costs could be offset as the bill provides a cause of action for reimbursement against a third party for physician, surgical, hospital, nursing services, and supplies.

Also, the bill strikes a provision allowing units to provide insurance for life, accident, and sickness coverage. Local units providing this general insurance (it is not limited to illness or injury sustained while at duty), costs for benefits for police reserve officers could be reduced.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Local units employing police reserve officers.

Information Sources:

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